

## SLIDE 1 OPENING

Good morning. This has been a very busy and challenging year for the Chemical Corps. Foremost on our list is the global war against terrorism, especially in Afghanistan and Iraq, which has challenged our determination to combat terrorism around the world. Our moral fiber as a country, an Army and Corps has been tested and I believe America still stands proud as the leader of a free world.

This challenge to our way of life has confirmed the necessity of an organization tactically and technically proficient in Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear defense. The US Army Chemical Corps is that organization. This is why the theme of this years conference is the "Chemical Corps - Now More Than Ever".

Our focus must now be on how the Corps will meet the expanding and changing operational environment of the future while providing the Army a viable CBRN defense capability. We are rapidly evolving from the "Cold War" oriented force protector to a 21st Century responsive, assertive, and comprehensive Corps equally adaptive to warfighting and Homeland Defense.

Bottom line - - The Chemical Corps is the Army's and the Nation's leader in CBRN defense. As such we have the responsibility to transform the Corps to meet the needs of our Nation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

## SLIDE 2 AGENDA

Today I am going to share with you my vision for the the Chemical Corps.

- I will briefly talk about recent events that are shaping the direction of the Army and the Chemical Corps.
- Then I will expand on my vision for the Army, the Corps and the Capabilities we bring to the Joint Warfight.
- Finally, I will close with my philosophy on what it will take to make the Chemical Corps a success.

## SLIDE 3 THE CHIEF'S VISION

- My vision is for the Army to have the capability to operate and function completely unhindered by a threatened or real CBRN environment. This ability will allow the Combatant Commander to deploy and use his forces at 100% efficiency. To achieve this level of proficiency we must provide our fighting forces the training, equipment and expertise they require.
- A professional group of CBRN defense experts, unsurpassed tactically and technically, and imbued with the warriors ethos, is my vision for the soldiers who serve in the Chemical Corps. We must ensure that the Corps is manned by highly qualified soldiers who are also flexible enough to adapt to any situation in any operational environment.
- I visualize a Chemical Corps with capabilities that are both vital and relevant to the Combatant Commander and the Joint Warfight. To achieve that goal we must leverage all technology, leadership and training to provide the Combatant Commander with the right systems to be an effective and viable resource to the Joint Warfight.

## SLIDE 4 THE IMPACT OF RECENT EVENTS

Prior to the attacks of 11 September 2001 there were many indicators that a volatile adversary was targeting our Nation and our way of life in ways we were not accustomed to. Although, these acts of terrorism did encourage us to look at how we fight, after September 11<sup>th</sup>, the urgency to transform the Chemical Corps to meet the new and challenging operating environment was energized.

The Global War on Terrorism has clarified the strategic environment, reinforced The Chemical Corps' direction, and provided impetus and urgency to accelerate the development of those needed capabilities while challenging us to stay ready today to fight and win—decisively.

Additionally, based on the direct threat to our homeland, we anticipate having a greater role in instituting the Nation's Homeland Defense program. The President wants "...a group of dedicated professionals who wake up each morning with the overriding duty of protecting the American people." With the technology, training and professional soldiers in the Chemical Corps, who is better suited to help plan and execute the Nation's Strategy against WMD incidents or attacks.

## SLIDE 5 SUPPORT TO THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM

The Army's superior performance during the combat phases of Operation Iraqi Freedom validated the professionalism, valor and bravery of our soldiers. Our reputation as the best lead, the best trained and best equipped Army in the world goes without question. The Chemical Corps' contribution to that performance is measured in events not necessarily highlighted by the media.

Chemical soldiers have accompanied every unit deploying to OIF. To date 31% of the Officers and 46% of the enlisted soldiers in the Active Chemical force are deployed or going to deploy in support of operations around the world. These numbers do not take into account the hundreds of Reserve Component Chemical Soldiers called to active duty in defense of our nation.

Chemical soldiers have been involved in every aspect of the search for Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iraq working with joint teams involving the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, our sister services and foreign allies. These efforts have validated our doctrine, given us a glimpse of our future roles, and fostered our efforts to improve our operational jointness.

Here at the Chemical School we have supported deploying units by quickly reacting to many Urgent Need Requirements for improved CBRN defense systems, providing Chemical Soldiers from our own staff to support personnel shortages, furnishing technical reach-back capabilities on CBRN procedures, and most importantly, supplying the Army's need for tactically and technically proficient Chemical Soldiers.

## SLIDE 6 THE ARMY

The Army has always answered the call to duty. Throughout our Nation's history, the Army has deterred, compelled, reassured and supported the Nation in peace and war. Since WWI, the Chemical Corps has participated in every conflict imposed on our country and Dragon soldiers have bestowed honor to the Corps with bravery and professionalism untold.

The end state of my vision is an Army that is 100% mission capable when threatened or forced to operate in a CBRN environment; it is an Army trained, equipped and confident in its ability to fight and win unimpeded by Weapons of Mass Destruction. To achieve this goal we must assist the Army in developing and acquiring the training, systems and soldiers needed to make the Army invincible to CBRN attack.

## SLIDE 7 ARMY TRANSFORMATION

A few years ago The Army announced its Vision and undertook the task of transforming into a force that is more dominant at every point on the spectrum of military operations. The tenants of that Vision –People, Readiness, and Transformation – remain the cornerstones of our efforts.

The new Chief of Staff of the Army addressed transformation in his “Arrival Message’, he said, “As long as the United States Army has existed we have transformed...and we always will... Our azimuth to the future is good. The Army must remain relevant and ready.”

Soldiers will continue to do their part to decisively win the Global War on Terrorism, rapidly transform The Army to fight and win different kinds of conflicts, meet our obligations to allies and friends, and maintain our readiness for the unexpected and unpredictable challenges that will arise.

Leaders will be required to be versatile and agile in order to achieve victory in battle. All units, including the Chemical Corps, must be able to deploy rapidly, undertake a multiplicity of missions, operate continuously over extended distances without large logistics bases, and maneuver with speed and precision to gain positional advantage.

We cannot predict what other changes the future will bring, but what will not change is the need for the Army to provide our Nation the best trained, best led, and best equipped Soldiers in the world.

## SLIDE 8 CHEMICAL CORPS TRANSFORMATION (2 PAGES)

There is a bright future ahead for the Chemical Corps. But it is a future filled with challenges. The Corps continues to transform from the Cold War Army focused on large armor battles in Europe to one of quick reaction to the full spectrum of conflicts. Chemical Corps transformation is tied directly to these factors:

**Factor 1. Emerging Strategic Environment:** The Army recognized in the 1990s that its Cold War capabilities did not correspond with anticipated future requirements in the emerging strategic environment. The recent proliferation of WMDs, our increased requirements for Homeland Defense and the need to enhance our response time to incidents necessitates our transformation to a 21<sup>st</sup> Century capable Chemical Corps.

**Factor 2. Full Spectrum Operations:** The Chemical Corps must work to grasp solutions to the complexities of the 21st Century and must seek to understand what is required to provide full spectrum forces capable of responding to ever-changing threats across a wider range of regions and crises at home and abroad. For example, in Operation Iraqi Freedom Fox vehicles are being used for convey security, chemical decon units are used as fire fighters, and chemical soldiers are used to establish base camps and for installation force protection. The point being what value do we provide our Army when the threat of CBRN is low or nonexistent.

**Factor 3. Evolving International Reality:** The U.S. Army is the military "Force of Choice " to react to WMD incidents and often is the only



## SLIDE 8 CHEMICAL CORPS TRANSFORMATION (CONT)

**FACTOR 4. Evolving Conduct of War:** The evolving conduct of war complicates the Chemical Corps ability to remain a viable resource to the Army. Adaptive and creative enemies using new and innovative technologies and tactics challenge the way we operated in the past. The Chemical Corps must adapt to these changes in order to remain vital and relevant.

- We have with us today a unit who has demonstrated the flexibility, adaptability, mission readiness, and continuing relevance that we all must inculcate. I want to recognize them and hold them up as an example for us all. Will CSM Moten, representing the US Army Technical Escort Battalion please come forward.

**Do Not Read - Narrative by COL Dalessandro**

## SLIDE 9 TECHNICAL ESCORT BATTALION

### **Do Not Read - Narration by COL Dalessandro.**

The US Army Technical Escort Battalion is recognized as an organization on the cutting edge of technology. This battalion has demonstrated the flexibility and adaptability required of Chemical Corps units in the 21st Century. The Technical Escort Battalion deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism demonstrating new capabilities and new concepts while supporting new missions such as sensitive site exploitation. This battalion uses the latest methods and systems in support of the Combatant Commander and the Joint Warfighter.

In recognition of the battalion's outstanding performance COL Lillie is awarding the Technical Escort Battalion the Chief of Chemical Recognition of Excellence. **(COL Dalessandro reads the Certificate)**

**Do Not Read - MAJ Hauer gives the Certificate to the Commandant who presents it to CSM Moten.**

## SLIDE 10 THE CHEMICAL CORPS

The Chemical Corps continues its long tradition of support to the nation. Since the early 1980s the Corps has undergone an extensive revitalization. This has included creation of a chemical battle staff at all echelons of the Army, activation of numerous chemical troop units, and the development of CBRN consequence management procedures. This revitalization is supported by new modern facilities for chemical training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; research, development, and engineering at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland; acquisition management by the Joint Program Executive Office; materiel testing at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah; and equipment production at Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas.

My vision is to develop a branch of professional soldiers who are the unquestioned experts in the operational art, the technical aspects of CBRN defense, and the development and acquisition of the technologies and systems to accomplish our mission. My intent is that no matter what your job, no matter your unit of assignment, no matter where you're located, you are a soldier first-- imbued with the warrior ethos.

## SLIDE 11 IT ALL STARTS AT THE CHEMICAL SCHOOL

Our future starts here at the Chemical School. We are daily finding ways to meet head on the challenges we face.

- In Doctrine we completed the Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for CBRN Protection. A joint endeavor that encompasses the procedures for all services into one regulation.
- The Chemical Corps is planning a major reorganization of our Chemical Units. The development of multi capable Chemical Companies will enhance the capabilities available to the Combatant Commander. Our plan was approved in the Total Army Analysis 11, which begins in FY06
- Training for Chemical Corps soldiers is constantly under revision to maintain relevancy in the full spectrum of operations and to ensure we are producing 21st Century Warriors.
- Developing CBRN capabilities in support of the Future Combat System is a top priority. Our greatest challenge is keeping up with technological improvements.
- Leader Development in the Chemical Corps is vital for the future force. We must train our Chemical Leaders to meet all the challenges of the ever changing operational environment.
- In Personnel we are looking at ways to improve the supply of qualified Chemical Soldiers to the field. Getting the right soldier with the right training to the right place is paramount to our success as a Corps.

## SLIDE 12 THE FUTURE OF THE CHEMICAL SOLDIER (2 PAGES)

The future Chemical Soldier is evolving even as we speak. The Chemical Soldier of the 21st Century must be better trained, equipped and organized to meet the ever changing challenges.

- ROTC recruits assessed into the Chemical Corps must be qualified to work in an operational environment dominated by science and technology. To facilitate this need I have directed that the number of hard science majors recruited as Chemical Corps Officers be increased to 40% this year and I intend to raise that percentage higher in the future.
- The Chemical School will continue to evaluate the critical tasks that we teach. We will conduct critical tasks reviews every three years and it is imperative that this process be driven from the field to analyze and develop the best possible training.
- ASI L6 was created in support of fielding the Stryker NBCRV. This latest advance in technology requires a Chemical Soldier trained in both Biological and Chemical Reconnaissance. ASI L2 is a joint effort with the National Guard to create an identifier for CBRN Responders in the Civil Support Teams, Regional Response Teams, and Installation Support Teams.
- The Army is transforming its officer education system in order to train and educate the leaders who will command and control the future force. This strategy is designed to meet The Army's future needs and officer expectations and to develop full spectrum leader competencies across all

## SLIDE 12 THE FUTURE OF THE CHEMICAL SOLDIER (CONT)

- The restructuring of the Special Forces Chemical Reconnaissance Team was a direct result of a Special Operation Command mission need for a more robust CBRN capability. The Reconnaissance Team was increased in size from 5 soldiers to 14, all of whom will be Tech Escort and Ranger qualified.
- High End Technical Response has been evolving over the last decade. The Chemical Corps is looking at many different areas to develop the techniques, procedures and equipment to provide the Army with a highly capable CBRN Responder. Part of that development is the activation of the Guardian Brigade, the future CBRNE Operational Command, and the construction of the CBRN Responder Training Facility.

## SLIDE 13 ARMY VALUES & WARRIOR ETHOS

- Army values form the foundation of our character and the identity of America's Army as an organization. They are the glue that binds us as individuals and professionals. These values tell us what we need to be. They are non-negotiable, apply to everyone, all the time, and in every situation.
- The Warrior Ethos transcends all branches, specialties, and functions and represents the Warrior Spirit of the Army. Job One is we must be able to fight and win.

We have with us today a soldier who has demonstrated the values and warrior ethos we all must emulate. I want to recognize him and hold him up as an example for us all. Will COL Glenn H. Eddins please come forward.

**Do Not Read - Narrative by COL Dalessandro**

## SLIDE 14 COL EDDINS AWARD (CONT) **Narrative by COL Dalessandro**

- COL Eddins was born in Clarksville, AR and is a graduate of the University of Central Arkansas where received a Master of Science degree in Education in 1992.
- He began his military career as an enlisted soldier in 1965 and was commissioned in the Infantry in 1970. He has served in a wide variety of assignments culminating as the Brigade Commander of the 460<sup>th</sup> Chemical Brigade.
- He Eddins is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic and Advance courses, the Command and General Staff College, the Inspector General School, Senior Officer Logistic Management Course and the Senior Commander's Chemical Officer's Course. Among his many awards are the Legion of Merit, The Bronze Star, and the Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster.
- On the eve of his retirement after 37 years of military service, COL Eddins received a call from the Chief of Chemical telling him his Nation needed him once again. Setting aside his personal life and civilian career he answered that call and served as the Combined Forces Land Component Command Chemical Officer, the senior Chemical Corps officer in Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- COL Eddins personifies the Army Values of Duty and Selfless Service. For putting the welfare of the Nation and the Army before his own and for his significant contributions to the Chemical Corps COL Lillie is



## SLIDE 15 JOINT WARFIGHT RELEVANCE

We are the only service with a dedicated professional corps of CBRN experts. We have and must continue to provide leadership to the Joint CBRN defense community. For 85 years we have provided a vital capability.

However, as the strategic environment changes it is imperative that we remain relevant by providing 21st Century capabilities essential to protecting the Joint Warfighter.

The changing face of conflict mandated a revisit of our doctrinal construct allowing us to address adaptive and emerging threats.

## SLIDE 16 CHEMICAL CORPS CAPABILITIES (3 Pages)

Our endeavor to support the Joint Warfighter with vital and relevant CBRN capabilities is viewed through the doctrinal construct of Sense, Shield, Shape and Sustain

**SENSE (Sense CBRN hazards - The capability to continually provide the information about the CBRN situation at a time and place by detecting, identifying and quantifying CBRN hazards)**

- I envision the capability to detect all hazards in sufficient time that all personnel are able to take adequate protective measures.
- I also envision the capability to detect hazards in sufficient time to allow the **operational force** to maneuver around all hazards with impunity.

**SHIELD (Shield the Force - The capability to shield the force from harm caused by CBRN hazards by preventing or reducing exposure, applying prophylaxis, and protecting critical equipment)**

- I envision comprehensive medical pretreatments that are safe and effective for all hazards.
- I envision Future systems capable of self decontamination and decontamination systems using non-aqueous decontamination technologies.
- In envision Individual Protection - fully integrated into the warfighter's

**SHAPE (Shape the battlespace - The capability to characterize the CBRN hazard to the force - develop a clear understanding of the current and predicted CBRN situation)**

- I envision sensor systems employing brilliant push technology and artificial intelligence as part of a fully networked and comprehensive warning and reporting capability.
- Future Obscurant systems must provide selective blocking of the Electro Magnetic spectrum and instantly provide obscuration measures to commanders on the ground where and when they need it.
- As mentioned previously I envision expertly trained officers and NCOs, capable of providing fully informed advice to commanders across the full set of mission challenges.

**SUSTAIN (Sustain Combat Operations - The capability to conduct decontamination and medical actions that enable the quick restoration of combat power - facilitate return to pre-incident operational capability as soon as possible)**

- I envision principles of sustainment being incorporated up front proactively so that hazards have the least possible operational impact. Thereby providing us the capability to perform our mission unhindered.
- Additionally, we want to reduce our dependence and burden on the logistical system.

We have with us today a professional who has dedicated his career to ensuring we continually provide a vital and relevant capability to our Combatant Commanders. I want to recognize him and hold him up as an example for us all. Will Merlin Erickson please come forward.

**Do Not Read - Narrative by COL Dalessandro**

## SLIDE 17 Mr. Erickson's BIO. **Narrative by COL Dalessandro**

- Merlin L. Erickson received a BS in Mechanical Engineering from North Dakota State University and a Master of Engineering from Texas A&M University. He is also a Registered Professional Engineer in the state of Maryland. Mr. Erickson has authored or co-authored approximately 16 technical papers and reports.
- Mr. Erickson has been the Director of Engineering at the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center since 30 July 2000. Previous assignments include Deputy PM for Smoke and Obscurants and Deputy PM for Binary Munitions. He has successfully directed a number of smoke and obscurant programs; served as the army's representative on the Joint Service Material Group for NBC defense acquisitions; he was the Chairman of the Joint Service Technical Panel for Chemical Biological Defense; and represented the CB defense program on the Office of Secretary of Defense, Science & technology Strategic Planning Group. One of his most recent accomplishments is the upgrading and fielding of the M12A1 Denomination Apparatus.
- For over three decades he has advanced the Chemical Biological Defense program by his exceptional accomplishments and distinguished himself as a leader in developing and fielding important new technology to the warfighter. For his significant contributions to the capabilities of the Chemical Corps, COL Lillie is awarding Merlin Erickson the Order of the

## SLIDE 18 COMMANDANT'S PHILOSOPHY

In closing, I want to leave you with three thoughts: People, Value to the Army, and Relevance to the Joint Fight.

It begins with people because Soldiers, active, guard, and reserve, supported by dedicated, Department of The Army civilians and their wonderful families, are central to everything we do. Without them, we would not have a Corps. As General Creighton Abrams taught us, "People are not in the Army, they are the Army." Our Soldiers, civilians, and their families set the standard every day for selfless service.

The Chemical Corps must provide Value to the Army. The CBRN defense capabilities we provide to the Army are essential to our warfighters in winning the Nation's wars and helping Federal, state and local agencies defend the homeland. We must continue to seek ways to ensure the Chemical Corps provides value to our future Army.

And Finally, our Relevance to the Combatant Commander requires us to be more than just a reactionary force. As the recognized leader in CBRN defense we must continue to look to the future and provide the capabilities required by our Joint Warfighters.